



**WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
FINAL DETERMINATION OF  
NON-SIGNIFICANCE  
February 28, 2005**

State of Washington  
**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

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Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

**DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE**

**Name of Proposal:** VOIGHTS CREEK HATCHERY POLLUTION ABATEMENT POND

**Description of Proposal:** The Voights Creek Hatchery has a constructed pollution abatement (PA) pond within the boundaries of an intermittent drainage, which is ponded behind a constructed wier. Periodically, fish waste is vacuumed up from the adjacent concrete rearing ponds using a trash pump and suction nozzle. The effluent from this hatchery operation is directed into the constructed PA pond, where it is detained for several months to allow for settling of solids, is air-dewatered in summer, and mucked out with mechanized equipment. The sludge is given away to area residents for garden enhancement.

The current PA pond is unlined. In addition, occasional peak drainage flows may have the effect of flushing effluent into Voights Creek. Lastly, the constructed pond is reverting to biological habitat, complicating pond maintenance operations.

The current proposal will drain and muck out the constructed PA pond and build a dual-cell reinforced concrete pollution abatement pond in the same footprint as the existing constructed pond, with an overflow weir and slotted drain. The natural drainage from the adjacent farmland will be routed through a watertight concrete center bypass channel between the two cells of the new PA pond. The center bypass will be covered with grating or plating to provide a maintenance walkway. The bypass channel will be connected to the existing 20" pipe that discharges into the adult dirt holding pond below. This pipe will be inspected during project construction when PA pond is dewatered and may be replaced if necessary. A 6 ft. high chain link fence with an entry gate for maintenance equipment will be erected around the new PA pond.

The new proposal will meet the Department of Ecology requirement (WAC 173.221A.100) for a minimum two-hour detention and settling period, and will isolate the groundwater table from leachate, while isolating the PA pond from any peak flows within the drainage.

The PA pond will be cleaned by switching from cell to cell, using a bin board weir to gradually draw down the water surface until the sludge has air-dewatered and can be handled by mechanical equipment. Operationally, there will be no difference to the hatchery facility and pond cleaning system.

**Proponent:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Engineering Department  
600 Capitol Way North, Olympia 98501- Project Contact: Leslie Durham (360) 902-8422

**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:** Voights Creek Hatchery, Orting, Washington, Pierce County; Section 33, Township 19 North, Range 05 EastWM

**Lead Agency:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of the completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date of issue below. Comments must be submitted by: **February 25, 2005**

**Responsible Official:** Teresa A. Eturaspe

**Position/Title:** SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, Regulatory Services Section

**Address:** 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501

**Please contact:** Teresa A. Eturaspe **Phone:** (360) 902-2575 **Fax:** (360) 902-2946 or **e-mail:** habitatSEPA@dfw.wa.gov if you have questions or comments about this determination.

**DATE OF ISSUE:** February 11, 2005 **SIGNATURE:** 

SEPA Log Number: 05 -016. dns

**Distribution of Environmental Document:**

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